Subsequently, orders were issued in September, 1998 and August, 1999 to upgrade "temporarily" a specified number of posts from the grades of Section Officers/Under Secretaries to that of Under Secretaries/ Deputy Secretaries for giving promotion on personal/in-situ basis to the eligible officers.

For the Assistants, panels for promotion to the grade of Section Officer, have regularly been finalised on annual basis. Meanwhile, Career Progression Scheme (ACP) had been introduced for Groups 'B', 'C and 'D' employees in August, 1999. Assistants (Group 'B') thus stand on a different footing. The case of Assistants for in-situ promotion on the analogy of the aforesaid orders issued in 1998 and 1999, does not hold.

Revision of syllabi for Civil Services Examination

1603. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that syllabi of some of the subjects for the next Civil Services Examination have been revised by the Union Public Service Commission;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the subjects involved;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there has been an adverse reaction among the prospective contestants; and

(d) if so, steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard so as to ensure a level playing field for candidates belonging to all disciplines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING AND DEPARTMENT OF PENSION AND PENSIONERS' WELFARE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHRA RAJE): (a) to (d) To ensure quality of the syllabi prescribed for various examinations held by them, the Union Public Service Commission keeps on updating and revising the same. Accordingly, syllabi of 30 subjects for Civil Services Examination, 2000 have been revised. A list of these subjects is enclosed as Statement *(See* below).

Syllabus revision is an ongoing exercise under which a certain number of subjects are taken up for revision every year. The Commission sets up separate Committees comprising Members of the Commission for different subject

groups in which senior subject experts drawn from renowned institutions across the country are closely involved.

A few representations have been received from prospective candidates and others on the syllabus and paper pattern of some subjects and they are receiving due consideration of the Commission.

It is the continuous endeavour of the Government and the Commission to design the Civil Services Examination Scheme in such a way as to provide a level playing field for all candidates irrespective of their academic streams. Besides the updation and revision of syllabi, the other instruments employed to achieve this end, include (a) greater balance between elective and non-elective components in the existing Civil Services Examination Scheme (b) the inter subject moderation in a scientific manner by the Commission and further (c) uniform structure of the question paper for various subjects with effect from Civil Services Examination, 2000.

Statement

1. General Studies
2. Anthropology
3. Botany
4. Chemistry
5. Civil Engineering
6. Electrical Engineering
7. Geography
8. Management
9. Medical Science
10. Arabic
11. Assamese
12. Bengali
13. Chinese
14. English
15. French
16. German
17. Hindi
18. Kannada
19. Manipuri
20. Marat hi
21. Nepali
22. Oriya
23. Pali
24. Persian
25. Punjabi
26. Russian
27. Sanskrit
28. Sindhi
29. Telugu
30. Urdu